

Attorney's Docket No.: 28951.1171

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Toshiaki IIO, et al. Art Unit : Unknown
Serial No. : 10/566,434 Examiner : Unknown
Filing Date: January 31, 2006
Title : PUNCTURE INSTRUMENT, PUNCTURE NEEDLE
CARTRIDGE, PUNCTURE INSTRUMENT SET, AND
PUNCTURE NEEDLE DISPOSAL INSTRUMENT

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Customer Window
U.S. Patent & Trademark Office
Randolph Building
401 Dulany St.
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. 1.56, the attention of the Patent and Trademark Office is hereby directed to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. A copy of the references listed on Form PTO-1449 is attached.

Also enclosed is a copy of a Search Report bearing a mailing date of September 7, 2004, and the U.S. PTO is directed thereto for a concise statement of possible relevance of the references cited therein.

The above information is presented so that the Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. 1.104(a) and 1.106(b) concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information. It is respectfully requested that the information be expressly considered during the prosecution of this application, and that this reference be made of record therein and appear among the "References

Applicant : Toshiaki IIO, et al.
Serial No. : 10/566,434
Filed : January 31, 2006
Page : 2 of 2

Cited" on any patent to issue therefrom.

Respectfully submitted,

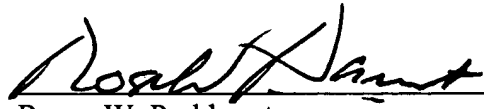
STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP

April 26, 2006
Date

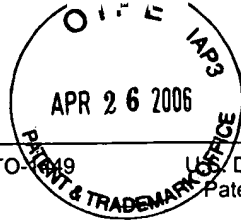
RWP/lmw

Attorney Docket No.: 28951.1171

STEPTOE & JOHNSON LLP
1330 Connecticut Avenue, N.W.
Washington, D.C. 20036-1795
Telephone: (202) 429-3000



Roger W. Parkhurst
Registration No. 25,177



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| Substitute Form PTO-1449 (Modified) | U.S. Department of Commerce Patent and Trademark Office | Attorney's Docket No. 28951.1171 | Application No. 10/566,434 |
| Information Disclosure Statement by Applicant (Use several sheets if necessary) (37 CFR §1.98(b)) | | Applicant Toshiaki OII, <i>et al.</i> | |
| | | Filing Date January 31, 2006 | Group Art Unit Unknown |

U.S. Patent Documents

| Examiner Initial | Desig. ID | Patent Number | Issue Date | Patentee | Class | Subclass | Filing Date If Appropriate |
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| | AA | 3,030,959 | 04/24/1962 | Grunert | | | |
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| | AB | 6,616,616 | 09/09/2003 | Fritz, et al. | | | |

Foreign Patent Documents or Published Foreign Patent Applications

| Examiner Initial | Desig. ID | Document Number | Publication Date | Country or Patent Office | Class | Subclass | Translation | |
|------------------|-----------|-----------------|------------------|--------------------------|-------|----------|-------------|----|
| | | | | | | | Yes | No |
| | AE | 2,201,530 | 09/29/1997 | Canada | | | | |
| | AF | 0 861 670 | 02/01/1998 | EPO | | | | X |
| | AG | 2797579 | 02/23/2001 | France | | | X | |
| | AH | 1 079 275 | 04/07/1960 | Germany | | | Claims | |
| | AI | 06-23505 | 03/29/1994 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | AJ | 2000166902 | 06/20/2000 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
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| | AM | 2002-143132 | 05/21/2002 | Japan | | | | X |
| | AN | 2004057489 | 02/26/2004 | Japan | | | Abstract | |
| | AO | 01/41642 | 06/14/2001 | WIPO | | | | |

Other Documents (include Author, Title, Date, and Place of Publication)

| Examiner Initial | Desig. ID | Document |
|------------------|-----------|----------|
| | AP | |
| | AQ | |
| | AR | |
| | AS | |
| | AT | |
| | AU | |

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|--------------------|-----------------|
| Examiner Signature | Date Considered |
|--------------------|-----------------|

EXAMINER: Initials citation considered. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011301

A. CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER
Int.Cl⁷ A61B5/15

According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC

B. FIELDS SEARCHED

Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols)
Int.Cl⁷ A61B5/15Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched
Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1922-1996 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2004
Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2004 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2004

Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used)

C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
|-----------|--|-----------------------|
| X | FR 2797579 A (RouiviereJean Yves), 23 February, 2001 (23.02.01), Full text; all drawings (Family: none) | 1-34 |
| A | US 3030959 A (Prameta Prazionsmetall- und Kunststofferzeugnisse G. Baumann & Co.), 24 April, 1962 (24.04.62), Full text; all drawings (Family: none) | 1-34 |
| A | DE 1079275 A (Prameta Prazionsmetall- und Kunststofferzeugnisse G. Baumann & Co.), 07 April, 1960 (07.04.60), Full text; all drawings (Family: none) | 1-34 |

☒ Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C.☐ See patent family annex.

* Special categories of cited documents:

"A" document defining the general state of the art which is not considered to be of particular relevance

"E" earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date

"L" document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other special reason (as specified)

"O" document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means

"P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than the priority date claimed

"T" later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention

"X" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is taken alone

"Y" document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered to involve an inventive step when the document is combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art

"&" document member of the same patent family

Date of the actual completion of the international search
18 August, 2004 (18.08.04)Date of mailing of the international search report
07 September, 2004 (07.09.04)Name and mailing address of the ISA/
Japanese Patent Office

Authorized officer

Facsimile No.

Telephone No.

INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/011301

C (Continuation). DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT

| Category* | Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages | Relevant to claim No. |
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| A | EP 861670 A (Wagner Wolfgang), 01 February, 1998 (01.02.98), Full text; all drawings & CA 2201530 A & EP 798004 A & DE 19705091 A & DE 19722852 A & DE 19722934 A & DE 19723730 A & DE 19745600 A & DE 19833868 A | 1-34 |
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| A | CD-ROM of the specification and drawings annexed to the request of Japanese Utility Model Application No. 60676/1992 (Laid-open No. 23505/1994) (Arupusu Kabushiki Kaisha), 29 March, 1994 (29.03.94), Full text; all drawings (Family: none) | 35-43 |
| A | JP 2000-175889 A (Kyoto Daiichi Kagaku Co., Ltd.), 27 June, 2000 (27.06.00), Full text; all drawings (Family: none) | 35-43 |
| P,A | JP 2004-57489 A (Arkray, Inc.), 26 February, 2004 (26.02.04), Full text; all drawings (Family: none) | 35-43 |